



STATE OF WASHINGTON

HOME CARE QUALITY AUTHORITY

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May 20, 2009

TO: HCQA Stakeholders

FROM: Rick Hall, Executive Director
Home Care Quality Authority

SUBJECT: Budget Reduction Impacts on Referral Registry

This legislative session was a very difficult one for all of us. The Home Care Quality Authority's budget was hit particularly hard with a 29% overall reduction. Unfortunately, more than half of this reduction was specifically directed to closure of some Registry sites. To this end, we have engaged our staff to review all available data in an effort to mitigate the impacts of these closures on the consumers we serve.

Due to the indicated budget reductions and based upon our utilization data we will make the following Home Care Referral Registry site closures in the indicated counties effective July 1, 2009:

- Close King Registry - King county.
- Close North Central Registry - Douglas, Chelan and Okanogan counties.
- Close Northeast Registry – Ferry and Stevens counties. (Pend Oreille county will continue to be covered by the current Spokane Registry.)
- Close Southeast Registry - Garfield, Asotin, Columbia and Walla Walla counties. (Franklin and Benton counties will continue to be covered by the current South Central Registry.)

We need to achieve these closures and complete this transition by June 30th in order to avoid the negative impact that a delay in closure would have on the budget for the remaining Registries. Our transition plan will include: notification to directly impacted consumers and individual providers; notification and transition with impacted government entities; contracts management; equipment and phones; changes to media and informational pieces; disposition of files and more.

The state fiscal crisis has required us to make these very difficult decisions. However, we will remain optimistic that this is only a temporary setback. Thank you for your continued support of the Referral Registry.